

## CLAIMS:

5        1. A chest fly box system for holding fishing equipment, comprising:  
a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box;  
a harness that secures said base piece to the body of a fisherman, and  
a fastener that secures one of a plurality of pocket-sized fly boxes on said base  
piece, said plurality of pocket-sized fly boxes being of different types.

10      2. A chest fly box system as in claim 1, said fastener configured to secure  
a pocket-sized fly box to said base piece when the fly box is in a vertical closed  
position and when it is in a horizontal flat position.

15      3. A chest fly box system as in claim 1, further comprising a fishing rod  
holder, said fishing rod holder contiguous to said base piece and configured to hold  
a fishing rod in a horizontal orientation under a pocket-sized fly box supported on said  
base piece.

20      4. A chest fly box system as in claim 1, characterized in that said base  
piece comprises a vertical chest plate and a horizontal support plate, said vertical  
chest plate and said horizontal support plate forming a right angle, said chest plate  
having an upper edge, a lower edge, a chest-side surface and an outside surface,  
said support plate having an inner edge, an outer edge, a first side edge and a second  
side edge, a top surface, a bottom surface, a support plate width, and a support plate  
length, said inner edge contiguous with said lower edge of said chest plate, said  
support plate width and said support plate length being adequate to support a pocket-  
sized fly box in its vertical closed position.

25      5. A chest fly box system as in claim 4, further comprising a fishing rod  
holder, said fishing rod holder being attached to said base piece.

30      6. A chest fly box system as in claim 5, characterized in that said fishing  
rod holder comprises rigid construction material.

7. A chest fly box system as in claim 6, characterized in that said fishing  
rod holder comprises a U-shaped trough having a length and a width, said length  
determining a horizontal length direction, a first open end, a second open end  
opposite said first open end in said length direction, a proximate upper edge adjacent  
said base piece, and a distal upper edge opposite said proximate upper edge.

8. A chest fly box system as in claim 7, characterized in that said distal

upper edge, said proximate upper edge and said outer edge of said support plate are in a single horizontal plane when said outer surface of said vertical chest plate is in a vertical plane.

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Miller 9. A chest fly box system as in claim 8, characterized in that said outer edge of said support plate and said proximate upper edge of said fishing rod holder are formed by a bend in a single piece of construction material.

summed a 10. A chest fly box system as in claim 9, characterized in that said bend comprises a right angle.

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Miller 11. A chest fly box system as in claim 10, further characterized by fasteners that secure a pocket-sized fly box to said base piece when the pocket-sized fly box is in a vertical closed position and when it is in a horizontal flat position.

same as 11 12. A chest fly box system as in claim 11, characterized in that said harness is attached to said inner edge of said support plate and said upper edge of said chest plate.

15 13. A chest fly box system as in claim 12, characterized by a first slot between said outer edge and said proximate upper edge adjacent to said first open end, and by a second slot between said outer edge and said proximate upper edge adjacent to said second open end, and characterized in that said harness comprises flexible material and has a chest portion for covering said chest surface of said chest plate, said chest portion having a top region and a bottom, a sleeve portion at said top region that encloses said upper edge of said chest plate, a first finger at said bottom having a first flange, and a second finger at said bottom having a second flange, said first finger located in said first slot and being secured by said first flange, and said second finger located in said second slot and being secured by said second flange.

20 25 14. A chest fly box system as in claim 13, characterized in that said sleeve portion, said first flange and said second flange comprise hook-and-loop fabric that attaches to corresponding pieces of hook-and-loop fabric on a pocket-sized fly box when said pocket-sized fly box is located in a vertical closed position on said support plate.

30 35 15. A chest fly box system as in claim 14, characterized in that said first flange and said second flange are rotatable 90 degrees about said outer edge of said support plate when a pocket-sized fly box to which said flanges are attached is rotated

downward from a vertical closed position on said support plate to a horizontal flat position.

16. A chest fly box system as in claim 15, characterized in that said chest portion of said harness includes a pocket, said pocket having an opening at said top region.

17. A chest fly box system as in claim 16, characterized in that said harness further comprises: a first strap attached to said top region and having a female clip end, a second strap attached to said top region and having a male clip end, a first lateral tab attached to said bottom and having a male clip end, and a second lateral tab attached to said bottom and having a female clip end.

18. A chest fly box system as in claim 16, further comprising a pig-tail retractor attached to a side of said chest portion.

19. A chest fly box system as in claim 4, further comprising: a bottle holder for holding a bottle in a horizontal position, said bottle holder attached to said bottom surface of said support plate.

20. A chest fly box system as in claim 19, characterized in that said bottle holder comprises neoprene rubber tubing having an inside diameter of 2.5 cm.

21. A chest fly box system as in claim 1, further comprising: a bottle holder for holding a bottle in a horizontal position, said bottle holder attached to said base piece.

22. A fishing rod holder for temporarily holding a fishing rod in a horizontal orientation, comprising:

a rod-holding mechanism suitable for holding a fishing rod in a substantially horizontal orientation; and

25. a fastener that secures said rod-holding mechanism to the body of a fisherman.

23. A chest fly box system as in claim 1, characterized in that said rod-holding mechanism is a U-shaped trough.

24. A chest fly box system as in claim 1, characterized in that said rod-holding mechanism is a clamp.

25. A portable system for holding, storing and transporting fishing equipment, comprising:

a fly box; and

a fishing rod holder, said fishing rod holder attached to said fly box and configured to hold a fishing rod in a horizontal orientation.

26. A chest fly box system comprising:

a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box; and

5 a fishing rod holder attached to said base piece and configured to hold a fishing rod in a horizontal position.

27. A chest fly box system for holding fishing equipment, comprising:

a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box; and

10 a hook-and-loop fastener having a hook portion and a loop portion, one of said hook-and-loop portions connected to said base piece, and the other of said hook-and-loop portions connected to said pocket-sized fly box.

28. A chest fly box system as in claim 27, wherein said portion connected to said base piece forms a rotatable hinge.

29. A chest fly box system for holding fishing equipment, comprising:

15 a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box, said base piece having a chest-side surface, said chest-side surface covered by a soft material.

30. A chest fly box system as in claim 29, wherein said soft material includes a pocket for storing fishing equipment.

31. A chest fly box system for holding fishing equipment, comprising:

20 a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box; and

a bottle holder for holding a bottle in a horizontal position, said bottle holder attached to said base piece.

32. A chest fly box system as in claim 31, characterized in that said bottle holder comprises neoprene rubber tubing having an inside diameter of 2.5 cm.

25 33. A chest fly box system for holding fishing equipment, said system comprising:

a base piece for supporting a pocket-sized fly box; and

a bottle holder comprising compressible tubing.

34. A method of securing a pocket-sized fly box to a base piece, comprising:

30 attaching one of a hook portion and a loop portion to said pocket-sized fly box;

and

attaching the other one of said hook portion and said loop portion to said base

piece.

35. A method as in claim 34, wherein said hook portion and said loop portion are rotatable.

36. A method of detachably securing a plurality of pocket-sized fly boxes to the chest of a fisherman, said pocket-sized fly boxes being of different types, said method comprising:

providing a fly box attachment set comprising a plurality of fly box attachment portions and a chest attachment portion;

10 attaching each of said plurality of fly box attachment portions to a different one of said plurality of different types of fly boxes;

attaching said chest attachment portion to the chest of a fisherman;

attaching said fly box attachment portion attached to a first one of said plurality of different types of fly boxes to said chest attachment portion;

15 detaching said first one of said fly box attachment portions from said chest attachment portion and attaching said fly box attachment portion attached to a second one of said plurality of different types of fly boxes to said chest attachment portion.

37. A method as in claim 36 wherein said fly box attachment portion and said chest attachment portion together comprise a hinge, and further including the step of rotating said fly box attached to said chest of said fisherman from a first 20 position to a second position utilizing said hinge.

38. A method as in claim 36 and further comprising the steps of:

providing a vertical hold set comprising a plurality of fly box units and a chest unit;

25 attaching each of said fly box units to one of said plurality of different kinds of fly boxes;

attaching said chest unit to the chest of a fisherman; and

attaching said fly box unit to said chest unit to hold said fly box in a substantially vertical orientation on the chest of said fisherman.

39. A method of holding a fishing rod in a substantially horizontal position 30 comprising the step of:

attaching a clamp to the body of a fisherman; and

clamping a fishing rod in said clamp in said substantially horizontal position.